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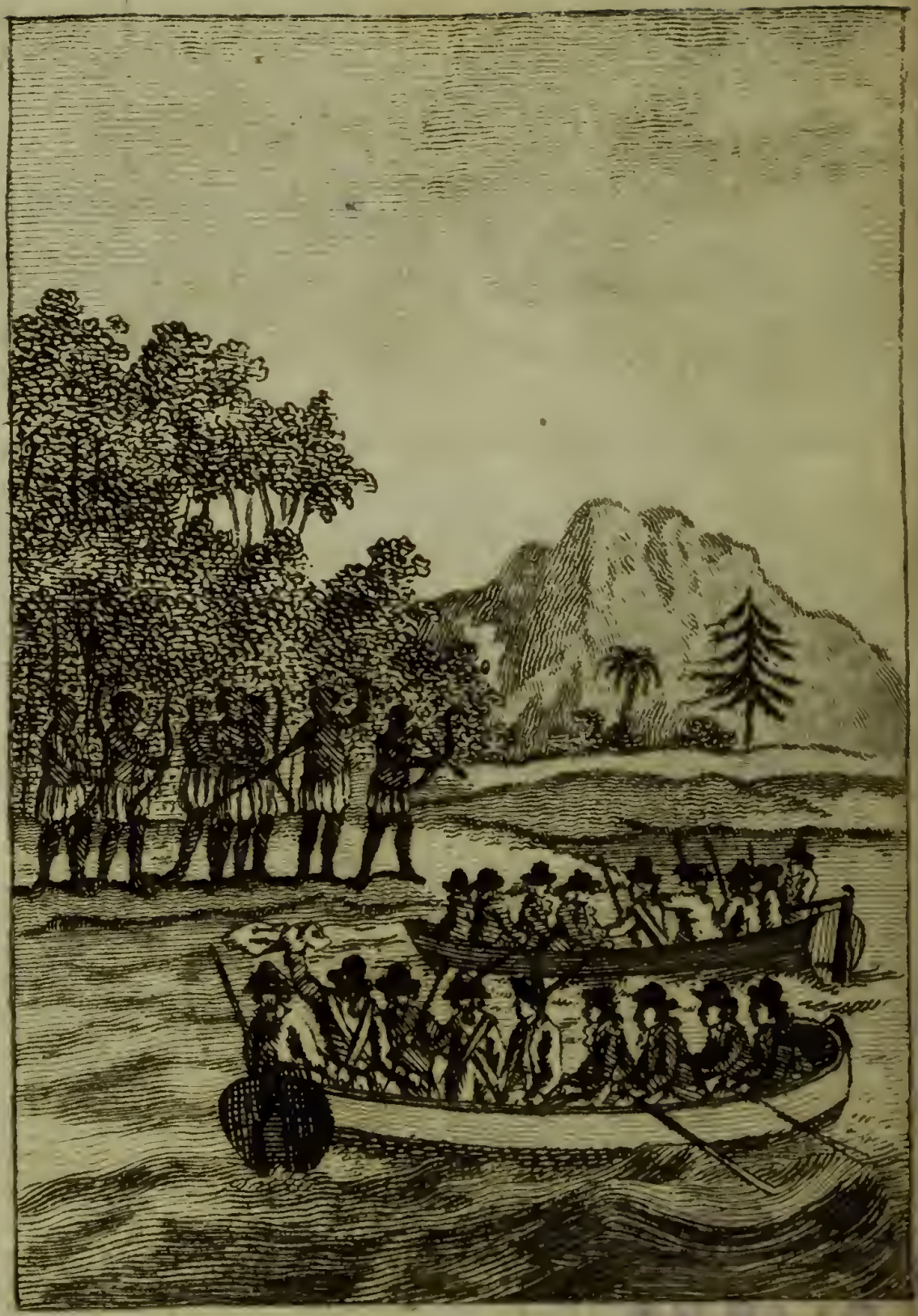

# THE SECOND VOYAGE OF COLUMBUS, TO AMERICA.

*Faithfully translated from the Spanish.*

R.B.

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# THE SECOND VOYAGE, OF COLUMBUS.

THE neceſſary meaſures being taken at court, for the ſucceſs of his ſecond expedition, the great Columbus departed for Seville, where he exerted himſelf with ſuch diligence, that in a little time ſeventeen veſſels of different ſizes were ready to ſail, well ſtored with proviſions and other neceſſaries, for the improvement of the Indian colonies. Many handicraftſmen and labourers were engaged for this ſervice, while the thirſt of gold,

gold, and the ſucceſs of the firſt adventurers, drew together ſuch a ſwarm of volunteers, that he found it abſolutely neceſſary to reject a great number, until another opportunity ſhould offer, and for the preſent reſtrict himſelf to fifteen hundred perſons of all ſorts who actually embarked on this undertaking.

Having taken on board ſome horſes, aſſes, and other animals, which were afterwards of great uſe in the plantations, and being well furniſhed with all ſorts of utenſils and commodities for trade, the admiral ſailed from the road of Cadiz, on the 25th of September 1493, in the morning, and ſtood ſouth-weſt for the Canary Iſlands, where he intended to take in ſome refreſhment. On the 28th, being 100 leagues from Spain, they

they ſaw abundance of land-fowl, ſuch as turtle-doves and other ſmall birds, paſſing from the Azores to winter in Africa. On Wedneſday October 2d, he anchored at Gran Canaria, and at midnight ſailed again for Gomara, where he arrived on the 5th day of October, and gave orders for ſupplying the ſhips with all poſſible diſpatch.

His directions being followed, he, on the 7th of October, took his departure for the Indies, after having delivered ſealed orders to every ſhip, not to be opened unleſs they ſhould be ſeparated from him by ſtreſs of weather. They ran 400 leagues weſt of Gomara with a proſperous gale, and were ſurpriſed they did uot meet with any of thoſe weeds which they had in their firſt

voyage

voyage ſeen before they had made much more than half that way. On Saturday the 26th, at night, the ſeamen perceived upon the round-top, thoſe lights which they call the body of St. Elmo, to whom they ſing litanies and prayers, in full confidence that no danger will enſue, let the ſtorm be never ſo violent.

On Saturday the 2d of November, in the evening, the admiral perceived a great alteration in the winds and ſky, that poured down a deluge of rain, concluded he was near ſome land; and almoſt all the ſails being taken in, ordered the crew to keep a ſharp look-out. This was far from being a groundleſs precaution: for, as ſoon as day began to break, they deſcried, about

ſeven

ſeven leagues to the weſtward, a high mountainous iſland, which the admiral named Dominica, becauſe it was diſcovered on Sunday morning. Much about the ſame time, they ſaw three other iſlands; and the people aſſembling on the poop, ſung the *ſalve regina*, and returned thanks to God for their wonderful ſucceſs, in having ſailed near 100 leagues in the ſpace of twenty days. There being no convenient place for anchoring on the eaſt ſide of Dominica, they ſtood over to another, which the admiral called Marigalante, after his own ſhip and there landing, he, with the uſual ſolemnity, confirmed the poſſeſſion he had formerly taken of all the iſlands and continent of the Weſt-Indies for the king and queen of Spain.

On

On Monday November 4th, he ſailed from hence northward by another great iſland, which he denominated St. Mary of Guadaloupe. Some men being ſent a-ſhore in a boat, went up to a ſort of town, which was abandoned by all the inhabitants, except ſome children, to whoſe arms the Spaniards tied a few bawbles, in token of friendſhip. They ſaw geeſe like thoſe of Europe, abundance of very large parrots, pompions, and pine apples growing wild, of exquiſite taſte and flavour. They likewiſe ſaw different kinds of ſtrange fruits, cotton hammocks, bows and arrows, and other things, which they left untouched, that the owners might have a better opinion of their morals. Next day the admiral ſent two boats a-ſhore, with orders to take,

if

if poſſible, ſome of the natives, from whom they might obtain ſome very important information; and they ſoon returned with two young men, who ſaid they were of another iſland, and taken priſoners by the inhabitants of Guadaloupe. The boats going aſhore again for ſome of the people whom they had left, found ſix women who had fled to them, and deſired to be carried on board; theſe the admiral preſented with beads and bells, and diſmiſſed, much againſt their inclinations; and they were no ſooner landed than the Caribbees robbed them of their ornaments, in ſight of the Spaniards. The next time the boats crew landed, theſe poor creatures leaped into the boat, imploring protection from the cruelty of the iſlanders, who, they ſignified, had eaten their huſ-

bands

hands, and kept themſelves in ſlavery. They were therefore brought aboard the admiral, whom they gave to underſtand that there were towards the ſouth many iſlands, and a large continent, from which, in former times, canoes had come to barter; and they pointed out the ſituation of Hiſpaniola; whither he would have ſteered without delay, had he not been informed, that one Mark a captain had, without his leave gone a-ſhore before day, with eight men, and was not yet returned; ſo that he was obliged to ſtay and ſend people in queſt of him, with trumpets and muſkets, the noiſe of which might be heard through the woods, that were almoſt impaſſible. However, this ſearch proving fruitleſs, he ſent another detachment of forty men, under

captain

captain Hoieda, with orders to range through thecountry, and make obſervations on its productions. They found maſtick, aloes, ſanders, ginger, frankincenſe, ſome trees that reſembled cinnamon in taſte and ſmell, and abundance of cotton.

While they were employed in this excurſion, the ſtragglers returned to their ſhip, and ſaid, they had been bewildered in the woods; but the admiralpuniſhed their preſumption, by ordering the captain to be put in irons, and the reſt to be curtailed in their allowance of proviſion. This example being made, he himſelf landed, and entered ſome of the Indian houſes, where he found a great deal of cotton, ſpun and unſpun, together with abundance of human

ſkull[s]

ſkulls and bones hung up in baſkets: and he obſerved that the natives here were better accommodated with lodging, neceſſaries, and proviſion, than thoſe of the iſlands which he had viſited in his firſt voyage.

On Sunday, November 10th, he weighed anchor, and ſailed with the whole fleet towards the north-weſt in queſt of Hiſpaniola, paſſed an iſland he called Montſerratte, on account of its height, the inhabitants of which, as he learned from his Indians, had been totally devoured by the Caribbees: coaſted along St. Mary Redonda, ſo named from its round figure; ſailed by Antigua, and holding on his courſe ſaw, to the north-weſt and ſouth eaſt, ſeveral other high and woody iſlands, in one of which, intitul ed

intituled St. Martin, he came to an anchor and when they weighed, peices of coral were found ſticking upon the flukes. On Thurſday, November 13th, he anchored again on account of bad weather, at another iſland, where he ordered ſome Indians to be taken, that they might inform him of his true ſituation. Accordingly four women and three children being taken by the boats crew, they put off from ſhore, and in their way to the ſhip met with a canoe, in which were four men and one woman, who perceiving they could not make their eſcape, put themſelves in a poſture of defence, and the female ſhot an arrow with ſuch force and dexterity, thar it actually went through a ſtrong target. But the Spaniards endeavouring to board them,

overſet

overſet the canoe, ſo that they betook themſelves to ſwimming, and one of them uſed his bow in the water as dexterouſly as if he had been on dry land.

The admiral departing hence, continued his courſe-weſt north-weſt, leaving to the northward many iſlands, the largeſt of which he called St. Urſula, and on the reſt he beſtowed the appellation of the Eleven thouſand Virgins; then he anchored in a bay, on the weſt ſide of what he termed St. ohn Baptiſt, where the men caught ſkate, pilchards, and ſhad, to the eaſtward of the bay they viſited ſome well built houſes with a ſquare in their front, from which was a ſpacious road down to the ſea, flanked on both ſides with cane towers, the tops of which

which were curiouſly interwoven with boughs; and at the end of it, next the ſea, ſtood a loſty gallery or balcony, large enough to hold ten or twelve perſons.

On Friday 14th, he arrived in the bay of Samana, on the north ſide of Hiſpaniola where he ſent on ſhore one of his Indians, who was a native of that part, and now being converted to the chriſtian faith, undertook for the ſubmiſſion of all his countrymen; from thence continuing his courſe for the town of the Nativity, he was at cape Angel viſited by ſome Indians, who came aboard to barter; and coming to an anchor in the port of Monte Chriſto, ſome of his men diſcovered, near a river, two bodies of men with a rope made of a kind of broom

broom about their necks, and their arms extended upon a peice of wood in form of a crofs; and this circumftance was looked upon as a bad omen, though it was impoffible to difcover whether they were Spaniards or natives of the country.

Next day being the 26th, a number of Indians came aboard, with great confidence and appearance of friendfhip, and pronounced feveral Spanifh words they had learned from the fettlers, fo that the admiral was eafed of the apprehenfions he had begun to conceive; as he could not imagine they would have behaved with fuch freedom and unconcern, had they been confcious to themfelves of having injured the Spaniards. Next day, however, put an

end

end to his doubts; for, when he anchored near the town of the Nativity, ſome Indians came along ſide in a canoe, and enquired for him by name, and being ſatisfied that he was there, went on board with two maſks, and a compliment from the cacique Guacanagari. From theſe people he had the mortification to learn, that the greateſt part of his ſettlers were dead, and the reſt gone to other countries: and tho' he ſuſpected foul play, he concealed his ſuſpicions for the preſent, and that ſame night diſmiſſed the meſſengers with ſome garments of ſattin and other bawbles for their prince.

When he entered the port of the Nativity, he ſaw nothing but ruin and deſolation;

the town was burnt to the ground, and not a ſoul appeared upon the beach: and when he ſent ſome of his people on ſhore to gather tidings, they found the bodies of eleven Spaniards, who ſeemed to have been a month dead. While he ruminated with ſorrow and reſentment on this unfortunate event, Guacanagari's brother, who came down, attended by ſome Indians, and told him, that he had ſcarce ſet ſail on his return to Spain, when thoſe he had left behind began to quarrel among themſelves, every man endeavouring to amaſs as much gold as he could find; that Peter Gutierres and Eſcovedo having killed one Iago, had with nine others retired into the dominions of a cacique called Caunabo, lord of the mines, who put them all to death,

and

and afterwards came down with a great number of men to deſtroy the town. At that time, James de Arana with ten men were left to guard the fort, the reſt having diſperſed themſelves about the iſland; and Caunaba, who ſtole upon them by night, ſetting fire to their houſes, they fled into the ſea, where eight of them periſhed, and the other three were ſlain on ſhore, while Guacanagari himſelf, who had joined the Spaniards, was obliged to fly, after having received a dangerous wound, by which he was then confined to his houſe, ſo that he could not wait upon the admiral according to his inclination. This ſtory exactly agreeing with the intelligence he received from ſome Spaniards, who had been ſent up the country to reconnoitre, and had



actually

actually ſeen Guacanagari at his own houſe, the admiral paid him a viſit next day, and was received with all the appearance of cordiality and concern: the cacique repeated the melancholy tale with marks of ſorrow, ſhewed his own wound and thoſe of his men, which had been received in defence of the Spaniards and appeared to have been made with Indian weapons; and the compliments of condolance being paſt, he preſented him with eight ſtrings of ſmall beads compoſed of white, green, and red ſtones, a ſtring of gold beads, a regal crown of the ſame metal; and three mall calabaſhes full of gold duſt, weighing about two pounds. In return for theſe valuable preſents, the admiral gave him toys to the amount of three reals, or eighteen

eighteen pence, which he prized at a very high rate. Though he was extremely ill, he inſiſted on accompanying his gueſt to the fleet, where he was courteouſly entertained, and very much ſurpriſed at the ſight of ſome horſes,

The admiral being diſguſted at this place, which had been the ſcene of ſo many diſaſters to him and his people, ſailed to the eaſtward with the whole fleet, on Saturday December 7th, and next day came to an anchor among the ſmall iſlands of Monte Chriſto, which tho' deſtitute of trees, are nevertheleſs pleaſant; for in that winter ſeaſon they abounded with flowers, and other productions of ſummer. weighing however, he ſailed from hence, and and

chored before an Indian town, where he reſolved to plant a colony,

With this view, all the men deſigned for ſettlers, together with proviſion and proper utenſils, were landed in a plain, where he built a tower he called Iſabella, in honour of the queen. This was judged a very convenient ſpot, becauſe it was under a rock on which a fort might be erected: the harbour was very large, and at the diſtance of a bow-ſhot ran a river of delicate water, from which canals might be drawn through the middle of the town: and beyond it lay an extenſive open plain, from which, the Indians ſaid, the mines of Cebao were not very diſtant. From the 11th day of December the admiral was eagerly employed

in

in regulating this ſettlement, which being tolerably well adjuſted, he ſent Alonzo de Hoieda, with fifteen men, in queſt of the gold mines, ; and on the ſecond of February he diſmiſſed twelve ſhips of his fleet to Caſtile, under the command of Capt. Antonio de Torres. Hoieda ſoon returned, and gave the following account of his expedition. On the ſecond day he lay at the paſs of an almoſt inacceſſible mountain ; at the diſtance of every league he found a cacique, by whom he was hoſpitably receivedd and contiuuing his journey, arrived on the ſixth day at the mines of Cebao, where he actually ſaw the Indians take up gold from a ſmall river, as they afterwards did from many others of the ſame province. This information was extremely agreeable to

the

the admiral who was juſt recovered from a fit of illneſs, occaſioned by fatigue; and on Wedneſday March 12th he ſet out from Iſabella for Ceboa, attended by all the people who were in health, on foot and on horſeback, except a ſtrong guard which he left in the two ſhips, and three caravals, that remained under the command of his brother James Columbus. This precaution he took in conſequence of a conſpiracy which he had detected on board, headed by one Bernarde de Piſa, who had embarked from Spain in quality of comptroller to to their catholic majeſties. He took the opportunity of the admiral's diſorder, to tamper with ſome of the men who were diſappointed of the gold which they expected to find without the leaſt trouble,

and

and diſſatisfied with the regulations of their new ſettlement: and formed the deſigns o revolting from the admiral and ſeizing the ſhips, in which he purpoſed to return to Spain: but the combination being diſcovered, Columbus ſecured the ringleader, untill he ſhould have an opportunity of ſending him home to undergo his trial; and having taken proper meaſures for preventing ſuch a mutiny for the future, departed for Cebao, with neceſſaries to build a fort in that province, for the ſecurity of thoſe who ſhould be left to gather gold among the Indians. That he might the more intimidate and awe theſe people, he made a para de of his men, whom he ordered to march through their villages in rank and file, with their arms and accoutrements,

trumpet

trumpets ſounding, and colours flying. He took his ronte along the river that runs by Iſabella, croſſed another not ſo large, and and lay in a plkaſant plain, extending to the ſoot of a craggy hill; and forming a paſs, which he called Puerto de los Hidalgos, or of the Gentlemen, becauſe ſome gentleman had gone before to widen the road; for the Indians never make a path that will allow above one man to paſs at a time. Next day he entered a large plain, in which he travelled five leagues, and ſpent the night near a great river, which the men croſſed on floats and in canoes; this which he named the river of Canes, falls into the ſea at Monte Ghriſto. In his march he paſſed many Indian towns, compoſed of round thatched houſes, the doors of which

were

were ſo ſmall, that no perſon could enter without ſtooping very low. The inhabitants ſeemed to have every thing in common, and had no notion of private property, for they attempted to take from the Spaniards any thing which they chanced to like, and were ſurprized at meeting with a repulſe. The whole way was diverſified with mountains covered with wild vines, aloes, caſſia, and that tree which is ſaid to produce the ſcammony.

On Friday, March 14th, the admiral ſet forwards from the river of Canes; and having proceeded a league and an half, arrived at the banks of another, which he named the river of gold, becauſe here they gathered ſome duſt and grains of that meta

thel

He paſſed this large body of water with ſome difficulty, on the other ſide of which he found a large town, and all the houſes ſhut againſt him by the inhabitants, who had barred their doors wiih canes, which they look upon as an impregnable defence. This night he lay on the bank of another fine river, which he called the Green River! and continuing his journey next day, paſſed by ſome great towns, fortified like that which we have already mentioned: by this time the men began to be tired with the fatigue of travelling, and he choſe his night's sodging at the foot of a rugged mountain where he denominated port Cebao, becauſe here the proviuce of that name begins. From hence he ſent back ſome mules to Iſabella for a freſh ſupply of proviſion! and

theſe being returned, he on the 16th day of March entered the province of Cebao, which though rough and ſtony, yields plenty of graſs, and is watered by ſeveral rivers abounding with gold, which is waſhed down from the mountains: but in this whole province, which is as large as Portugal, there are few or no trees, except on the banks of the rivers, where ſome pines and palms are found.

This country being very craggy, and at a good diſtance from Iſabella, which lay eighteen leagues to the northward, he ordered a fort to be built in a very ſtrong tho' pleaſant ſituation, to command the country about the mines, and protect the Spaniſh adventurers. This, which he ca-

led

led the caſtle of St. Thomas, was garriſoned by fifty ſix men, under the comman of Peter Margarite, and among theſe were workmen of all ſorts, to finiſh and repair the fort, which was built with clay and timber, of force ſufficient to withſtand the attempts of any number of Indians who might come againſt it.

The admiral having given proper directions touching the ſupport of this work ſet out on his return for Iſabella, and was met by numbers of the natives who came to ſell their proviſions, which chiefly conſiſted of garlick, and a ſort of bread; and on Sunday, March 29th, he arrived at his new colony, where he found melons already fit to eat, tho' the ſeed had not been above

two

two months in the ground. Cucumbers came to perfection in twenty days; and a wild vine of the county, being pruned, produced large and excellent grapes. Next day, being the 30th, a peasant gathered ears of wheat, which he had sown in the latter end of January: vetches, improved in the soil, produced a ripe crop in twenty-five days after they were sown. The stones of fruit sprouted out in seven days; the vine branches put forth in the same time, yielding green grapes in five and twenty days, and sugar canes budded in the like space. So that the admiral was perfectly well pleased with the climate, the soil, and and the water, which was extremely pure, cool, wholesome, and palatable.

On

On Tuesday, April 1st, a messenger arrived from St. Thomas, with intelligence that the cacique Caunabo was employed in making preparations for attacking the fort: and tho' Columbus paid but little regard to this report, because he knew how little the natives were to be feared, especially as they were so much terrified by the horses, that they durst not venture to approach those animals; nevertheless, as he intended to go to sea with his three caravals, in order to discover the continent, he resolved to leave every thing quiet behind; and for that purpose sent a reinforcement of seventy men to the fort, the greatest part of whom had orders to make the road more passable, and find

out

out the fords of the rivers. Mean while he completed his town, which was laid out in regular ſtreets, with a convenient market-place, and ſupplied it with the rivrwater, conveyed through an artificial canal. He likewiſe erected a water mill to grind wheat, as his people were not yet accuſtomed to the food of the natives; and proviſions beginning to fail, he determined to ſend all the ſuperfluous mouths to Spain, and leave uppon the iſland no more than three huudred men, which he deemed a number ſufficient to keep that country in ſubjection to their cath lick majeſties. This ſtephe was induced to take, becauſe the climate diſagreed with many, who were in a ſick and languiſhing condition: as for

thoſe

thoſe who enjoyed health. and were not abſolutely neceſſary in the town, he ſent them out to traverſe the iſland, that they might reconnoitrre the ground, accuſtom themſelves to the Indian diet, and ſtrike a terror into the inhabitants: they were commanded by Hoieda, who had orders to march into Cebao, and deliver them to Peter Margarite, who ſhould lead them round the iſland, while he (Hoieda) ſhould command the fort of St. Thomas.

On Wedneſday, April 29th they departed from Iſabella, to the number of four hundred; and having croſſed the river del Oro, apprehended a cacique, whom together with his brother, Hoieda ſent in irons to the

Admiral

who received him with all that politeneſs ſo conſpicuous in his character.

Columbus reſolved to purſue his diſcoveries, that he might be able to aſcertain whether thoſe new countries with which he had opened a communication were connected with any region already known.

During a tedious voyage of full five months, he had a trial of all the numerous hardſhips to which perſons of his profeſſion are expoſed, without making any diſcovery of importance except the Iſland of Jamaica. As he ranged along the Southern coaſt of Cuba, he was entangled in a labyrinth, formed by an

incredible number of ſmall Iſlands, to which he gave the name of Queen's Gardens. In this unknown courſe among rocks and ſhelves, he was retarded by contrary winds, aſſaulted by furious ſtorms, and alarmed with tremendous thunder and light'ning, which is almoſt inceſſant between the tropics. At length his proviſions fell ſhort; his crew, exhauſted with fatigue as well as hunger, murmured and threatened, and were ready to proceed to the moſt deſperate extremities againſt him. Beſet with dangers in ſuch various forms, he was obliged to keep continual watch, to obſerve every occurrence with his own eyes, to iſſue every order, and to ſuperintend the execution of it. On no oc-

caſion

caſion was the extent of his ſkill and experience as a navigator ſo much exerted. To theſe the Squadron owed its ſafety. But this unremitted fatigue of body, and intenſe application of mind, overpowering his conſtitution, though naturally ſtrong and robuſt, brought on a feveriſh diſorder which terminating in a lethargy, deprived him of ſenſe and memory, and had nearly proved fatal to his life.

On his return to Hiſpaniola, he met with his brother Bartholomew. It was now thirteen years ſince the two brothers whom ſimilarity of talents united in cloſe friendſhip, had ſeparated from each other. Bartholomew could not have

arrived at any juncture when Columbus ſtood more in need of a friend, capable of aſſiſting him in his counſels, or of dividing with him the cares inſeparable from government; for although the proviſion now brought from Europe, afforded a temporary relief from the calamities of famine, the ſupply was not in ſuch quantity to ſupport them long, and the Iſland had not hitherto yielded a ſufficiency for their ſuſtenance. They were now threatened with another danger, ſtill more formidable than the return of ſcarcity, and which demanded more immediate attention.

No ſooner did Columbus leave the Iſland on his voyage of diſcovery, than the

the ſoldiers under Margarita, ſcorned all reſtraint. Inſtead of conforming to the prudent inſtructions of Columbus, they treated the inoffenſive natives with the utmoſt inſolence and oppreſſion.

As long as the natives had any proſpect that their ſufferings would come to a period by the voluntary departure of the Spaniards, they ſubmitted in ſilence and diſſembled their ſorrow, but they now found their yoke would be as permanent as it was intolerable. The Spaniards had built a town and ſurrounded it with ramparts; they had encloſed and ſown ſeveral fields. It was therefore that they came not to viſit the country, but to ſettle in it. Though the number of

the Spaniards was but inconſiderable, the ſtate of cultivation among this rude people was ſo imperfect, and in ſuch exact proportion to their own conſumption that it was with difficulty they could afford ſubſiſtance to their new gueſts, A handful of maize, on a little of the inſipid bread made from the caſſada root, was ſufficient to ſupport men, whoſe ſpirits were not exhauſted by any vigorous efforts, either of body or mind. One Spaniard conſumed as much as ſeveral Indians. This keeneſs of appetite ſurpriſed them as much, and appeared to them as inſatiable, that they ſuppoſed the Spaniards had left their own country becauſe it did not afford them ſufficient nouriſhment. Self preſervation

ſervation prompted them to wiſh for the departure of gueſts who waſted ſo faſt their ſlender ſtock of proviſions; and the injuries they ſuffered added to their impatience for the event.

Inflamed by the unprovoked outrages of the Spaniards they waited only for a ſignal from their leaders to fall upon the colony. The dread of this impending danger united the Spaniards, and re-eſtabliſhed the authority of Columbus. It was now neceſſary to have recourſe to arms, the employing of which, againſt the Indians, Columbus had avoided with the utmoſt ſolicitude. Unequal as the conflict may appear, between the naked inhabitants of the new World,

armed with clubs and ſticks, hardened by fire, wooden ſwords, and arrows pointed with bones or flints; and troops accuſtomed to the diſcipline, and provided with the inſtruments of deſtruction, known in the European art of war, the ſituation of the Spaniards was far from being exempt from danger. The vaſt ſuperiority of the natives in number, compenſated many defects; a handful of men were about to encounter a whole nation. One adverſe event, or any unforeſeen delay in determining the fate of the war, might prove fatal to the Spaniards. Conſcious that his ſucceſs depended on the vigor and rapidity of his operations, Columbus immediately aſſembled his forces. They were reduced

to

to a very ſmall number. Diſeaſes contracted from the warmth and humidity of the country, or occaſioned by their own licentiouſneſs, had raged among them with deſtructive violence; experience had not yet taught them the art of curing them, or the precautions neceſſary for avoiding them. Two thirds of the original adventurers were dead, and many who ſurvived were incapable of military duty.

The body that took the field conſiſted only of two hundred foot, twenty horſe, and as many large dogs, and although it may ſeem ſtrange to mention the laſt as compoſing part of a military force, they were not perhaps the leaſt formi-

dable of the whole, when employed against naked and timed Indians. The Indians, instead of attempting to draw the Spaniards into the woods and mountains, were so imprudent as to place themselves in the Vega-Real, the most open plain in the country. Columbus did not give them time to perceive their error, he attacked them in the night, and obtained an easy and bloodless victory. The consternation with which the Indians were filled by the noise and havock made by the fire arms, the impetuous force of the cavalry, and the fierce onset of the dogs, was so great, that they fled without attempting resistance, and relinquished all thoughts of contending with aggressors whom they deemed invincible.

Columbus

Columbus now employed ſome months in making a journey through the Iſland, and in ſubjecting it to the Spaniſh government. He impoſed a tribute upon all the inhabitants above the age of fourteen. Each perſon who lived in thoſe diſtricts where the gold was found, was obliged to furniſh quarterly as much gold duſt as would fill a hawk's bell; from thoſe who lived in other parts of the country, twenty five pounds of cotton were demanded. This was the firſt regular taxation of the Indians, and ſerved as a precedent for exactions ſtill more intolerable. Such an impoſition was very contrary to the maxims which Columbus had hitherto inculcated with reſpect to treating them. But intrigues

were now carrying on in the court of Spain, in order, if poſſible to undermine his power and counteract his operations, which induced him to alter his ſyſtem of adminiſtration. Several unfavorable accounts of his conduct, as well as of the countries he had diſcovered, had been tranſmitted to Spain. Margarita and Father Boyl were now at court; and in order to juſtify their own conduct, or to gratify their reſentment, watched with malevolent attention for every opportunity of propaga ing inſinuations to his detriment. The courtiers viewed his growing reſpectation with envious eyes Fonſeca, arch deacon of Seville, who was the chief director of Indian affairs, had conceived ſuch an unfavorable opi-

nion

nion of Columbus, that he liſtened attentively to every invective againſt him. It was difficult for an unfriended ſtranger unpractiſed in courtly arts, to counteract the machinations of ſo many enemies. Columbus ſaw there was but one method of ſupporting his own credit, and ſilencing all his enemies. He muſt produce ſuch a quantity of gold, as would not only juſtify what he had reported, with reſpect to the richneſs of the country, but encourage Ferdinand and Iſabella to perſevere in executing his plans. The receipts of obtaining it, obliged him, not only to impoſe this heavy tax upon the Indians, but to exact the payment of of it with extreme rigour, and may be pleaded in excuſe for his deviation on

this

this occaſion from the mildneſs and humanity with which he uniformly treated that unhappy people.

The labour and attention which the Indians were obliged to employ in procuring the tribute demanded of them, appeared the moſt intolerable of all evils, to men unaccuſtomed to induſtry. They therefore formed a ſcheme of ſtarving thoſe oppreſſors whom they durſt not attempt to expel: with this view they ſuſpended all the operations of agriculture, and retired to the moſt inacceſſable part of the mountains, leaving the uncultivated plains to their enemies. This deſperate reſolution produced in ſome degree the effects

they expected. The Spaniards were reduced to extreme want, but they received such seasonable supplies of provisions from Europe that they suffered no great loss of men. The wretched Indians became the victims of their ill-concerted policy. A great multitude of people, shut up in the mountains or wooded part of the country, without any food but the spontaneous productions of the earth, soon felt the utmost distresses of famine; this brought on contagious diseases, and in the course of a few months, more than a third part of the inhabitants of the Island perished after experiencing misery in all its various forms.

But

But while Columbus was eſtabliſhing the foundations of the Spaniſh Grandeur in the New World, his enemies laboured with unwearied aſſiduity to deprive him of the glory and rewards, which by his ſervices and ſufferings he was entitled to enjoy. The hardſhips unavoidable in a new ſettlement, the calamities attending an unhealthy climate, the diſaſters attending a long voyage in unknown ſeas, were all repreſented as the effects of his unbounded ambition. His prudent attention to preſerve diſcipline was denominated exceſs of rigor; the puniſhments which he inflicted on the mutinous and diſorderly were imputed to cruelty. Theſe accuſations gained ſuch credit in a jealous court, that a

commiſſioner

commiſſioner was appointed to repair to Hiſpaniola, to inſpect into the conduct of Columbus.

By the recommendation of his enemies, Aguado, a groom of the bedchamber, was the perſon to whom the charge of this important truſt was committed. But in this choice they ſeemed to have been influenced by the obſequious attachment of the man to their intereſt, than by his capacity for the ſtation. Elated by this ſudden elevation, Aguado diſplayed in the exerciſe of of this office, all the frivolous ſelf importance, and acted with all the diſtinguiſhing inſolence natural to low minds, when raiſed to unexpected dignity, or

employed

employed in functions to which they are not equal. As Columbus felt sensibly how humiliating his situation must be, if he should remain in the country while such a partial inspector observed his motions, and controled his jurisdiction, he took the resolution of returning to Spain, in order to lay a full account of all his transactions, particularly with respect to the points in dispute between him and his adversaries, before Ferdinand and Isabella, from whose justice and discernment, he expected an equal and a favorable decision. He committed the administration of affairs, during his absence to his brother Bartholomew, with the title of Atalantado, or Lieutenant Governor, by a choice less for-

tunate

tunate, and which proved the source of many calamities to the colony, he appointed Francis Rolden chief justice, with very extensive powers.

In returning to Europe, Columbus held a course different to that which he had taken in his former voyage. He steered almost due east from Hispaniola, in the parallel of twenty-two degrees of latitude, as experience had not yet discovered the more certain and expeditious method of stretching to the North, in order to fall in with the South-West winds. By this ill-advised choice, Columbus was exposed to infinite fatigue and danger, in a perpetual struggle with the trade winds, which blow without

without variation from the Eaſt between the tropics. Notwithſtandiug the almoſt inſupperable difficulties of ſuch a navigation, he purſued his courſe with his uſual perſeverance, but made ſo little way, that he was three months without ſeeing land. At length his proviſion failed, and the crew was reduced to the ſcanty allowance of ſix ounces of bread a day for each perſon. The Admiral fared no better than the meaneſt ſailor. But even in this extreme diſtreſs, he retained the humanity which diſtinguiſhes his character, and refuſed to comply with the earneſt ſolicitation of his crew, ſome of whom propoſed to feed upon the Indian priſoners whom they were carrying over, and others in-

ſiſted to throw them over board, in order to leſſen the conſumption of their ſmall ſtock. He repreſented that they were human beings, reduced by a common calamity to the ſame condition with themſelves, and entitled to ſhare an equal fate. His authority and remonſtrances diſſipated thoſe ſavage ideas ſuggeſted by deſpair. Nor had they time to recur, as he came ſoon within ſight of the coaſt of Spain, when all their fear and ſufferings ended.

Columbus appeared at court with the modeſt, but determined confidence of a man conſcious, not only of his integrity, but of having rendered great and uſeful ſervices. Ferdinand and Iſabella,

aſhamed

aſhamed of having lent ſo favorable an ear to frivolous, or ill founded accuſations, received him with ſuch diſtinguiſhed marks of reſpect, as covered his enemies with ſhame. The gold, the pearls, the cotton, and other commodities, which Columbus produced, ſeemed fully to confute what the malecontents had aſſerted with reſpect to the poverty of the country. By reducing the Indians to obedience, and impoſing a tax upon them, he had procured to Spain a large acceſſion of new ſubjects, and the eſtabliſhment of a revenue which promiſed to be conſiderable. By the mines which he had found and examined, a ſource of wealth, ſtill more copious was opened.

Great

Great as thoſe advantages were, Columbus repreſented them as preludes only to future acquiſitions, and as the earneſt of more important diſcoveries, which he ſtill meditated, and to which thoſe he had already made would conduct him with caſe and certainty.

The attentive conſideration of all theſe circumſtances made ſuch an impreſſion, not only upon Iſabella, who was flattered with the idea of being patroneſs of all the enterpriſes of Columbus, but even upon Ferdinand, who having originally expreſſed the diſapprobation of his ſchemes, was ſtill apt to doubt of their ſucceſs, that they

reſolved

reſolved to ſupply the colony in Hiſpaniola with every thing that could render it a permanent eſtabliſhment, and to furniſh Columbus with ſuch a fleet, that he might proceed in ſearch of thoſe new countries, of whoſe exiſtence he ſeemed to be confident.

Diſcovery had been the only object of the firſt voyage to the new world; and though in the ſecond ſettlement had been propoſed, the precautions taken for that purpoſe had been inſufficient, or had been rendered ineffectual by the mutinous ſpirit of the Spaniards, and the unforeſeen diſaſters ariſing from a variety of cauſes. A plan was now to be formed, which might ſerve as a

model

model for all future eſtabliſhments. The preciſe number of perſons who ſhould be permitted to embark was fixed. They were to be of different ranks; and the proportion of each was eſtabliſhed according to their utility and the wants of the colony. As it was an object of the firſt importance, to raiſe proviſions in a country, where a ſcarcity had occaſioned ſuch complicated diſtreſs, a conſiderable body of huſbandmen was to be caried over. Columbus foreſaw that few would voluntarily engage to ſettle in a country whoſe climate had been fatal to ſo many of their countrymen, propoſed to tranſport ſuch male-malefactors as had been convicted of crimes, which, though capital, were

of a leſs atrocious nature; and that for the future a certain number of the offenders uſually ſent to the gallies, ſhould be condemned to labour in the mines, which were to be opened. This advice, given without due reflection, was as inconſiderately adopted. It is not with ſuch materials that the foundation of a government, deſtined to be permanent ſhould be laid, induſtry patience, and ſobriety are indiſpenſably neceſſary in forming an infant ſettlement and the Spaniards ſoon experienced the pernicious conſequences ariſing from the method they had purſued.

Though Columbus obtained with great facility and diſpatch, the royal approbation

approbation of every measure and regulation he proposed, his endeavours to carry them into execution were so long retarded, as was sufficient to have exhausted the patience of any man less acquainted with disappointment than himself. These delays were occasioned by that tedious formality and spirit of procrastination peculiar to the Spainards in conducting business; and partly from the impoverished state of the treasury; but the cause must be chiefly imputed to the malicious arts of Columbus's enemies. Astonished with the reception he met with at his return; they gave way for some time, to a tide of favors too strong for them to oppose. That enmity which arises from envy is gene-

rally of the moſt inveterate kind and ſeldom remains inactive; they accordingly reſumed their operations, and by the aſſiſtance of Fonſeca, the miniſter for Indian affairs, who was now promoted to the Biſhopric of Bajados, they threw in ſo many obſtacles to protract the preparations for the voyage of Columbus, that a year elapſed before he procured two ſhips, to carry over part of the ſupplies deſtined for the colony, and almoſt two years were ſpent before the ſmall ſquadron was equipped of which he himſelf was to take the command.

It is highly proper in this place to mention, that during this ſecond voyage of

of Columbus, Sebaſtian Cabot, a native of Briſtol, and ſon of John Cabot, a Venetian, was employed by King Henry the Seventh of England on the diſcovery of a North Weſt paſſage to India. Having proceeded on his voyage he firſt fell in with Primaviſta or Newfoundland, and ſoon after with the North American Continent——Cabot of courſe is entitled to the honor due to the firſt diſcovery of that vaſt tract of land, although Columbus was without doubt the original diſcoverer of America by means of the Weſt Indies, and without which having been effected, it is very probable that Cabot would never have thought of his ſcheme.

Columbus however had the good fortune to diſcover the Southern Continent, on the firſt of Auguſt, 1498.

This vaſt county contains in the North, Canada and Nova Scotia, belonging to England——The liniter ſtates originally thirteen in number, but now encreaſed to fifteen and with rapid ſteps is advancing to that eminence amongſt nations, as cannot fail in the courſe of another century to give it all the conſequence of the beſt peopled, and it now poſſeſſes one of the beſt regulated governments——The Spainards poſſeſs Eaſt and Weſt Florida, Louefina, New Mexico, Calefernia, and Mexico. Beſides theſe there are

immenſe

immenſe regions to the Weſt and North, the utmoſt bounds of which have never been diſcovered. In thoſe countries which are in any way tolerably known, dwell the Eſqumant, the Algonquins, the Hurons, the Iroquois, the Cherekees, the Chickaſaws, and many other tribes of Indians.

In the Southern Continent lie the Spaniſh provinces of Terra Firma, Gueana, Peru, Paragnay, and Chili, —together with that of Brazil belonging to the Portugueſe; and the country of Surinano of which the Dutch are Proprietors. Vaſt tracts in the inland parts ſtill remain unknown, and which are comprehended under the general

name

name of Amozonia, Patagonia, by ſome reported as the reſidence of a gigantic race of men, lies on the Eaſt ſide of this Continent between the ſtrait of Magellan and the province of Paraguay.

This prodigious country produces moſt of the metals, minerals, plants, fruits, trees, &c. to be met with in other parts of the world, and many of them in greater quantity and higher perfection. The Gold and Silver of America have ſupplied Europe with ſuch immenſe quantities of thoſe valuable metals that they have become vaſtly more common; ſo that the Gold and Silver of Europe, now bears little pro-

portion

portion to the high price ſet upon them before the diſcovery of America.

It produces alſo diamonds, pearls, emeralds, amethyſts, and other valuable ſtones, which by being brought to Europe, have contributed likewiſe to reduce their value. To theſe, which are chiefly the production of Spaniſh America, may be added a great number of other commodities, which though of leſs price, are of much greater uſe, of theſe are the plentiful ſupplies of cochineal, indigo, anatto, logwood, Brazil, fuſtic, pemento, lignum vitæ, ginger, cocoa, ſugar, cotton, tobacco, bamboes, red-wood, the balſams of Tolu, Peru, and Chili, that valuable article in medicine the jeſuits bark, Mechoacan ſaſ-

ſafras,

ſafras, ſarſaparella, caſſica tamarinds, furs, ambergriſe, and an infinity of other articles, to which, before the diſcovery of America, we were either entire ſtrangers, or obliged to buy at very extravagant prices from Aſia and Africa thro' the medium of the Venetians, and Geneoaſe, who then engroſſed nearly the whole trade of the Eaſtern world.

The fruits of America are great in variety, and excellent in quality, particularly the fine Apple, Orange, &c. &c. and the culinary and medicinal plants are found in the greateſt abundance.

Although the Indians ſtill live in an uninterrupted poſſeſſion of large tracts

tracts of land, America so far as it is known is chiefly claimed by three European nations, Spaniards, English, and Portuguese. The Spaniards have the largest and richest portion, extending from Mexico and Louiscasia, in North America to the straits of Maggellan in the South, Brazil belonging to Portugal excepted, for although the French and Dutch have some small possessions in Surinxur and Guiana, they scarcely deserve to be considered as proprietors of any part of the Southern Continent.

Next to Spain the most considerable proprietor of America previous to the great revolution in the colonies, was England, that event closing with the

entire

entire independence of Engliſh American territory, have left only Canada and Nova Scotia, the moſt inconſiderable part of its former poſſeſſions under the Britiſh government. But to give our youthful reader a juſt idea of the prodigious loſs to this country of the ſtates beforementioned, and to ſhew the magnitude of the Britiſh poſſeſſions previous to that period we ſhall obſerve that to the Northward our claims went to the pole itſelf, extending Southward, the territory reached Cape Florida, a diſtance of four thouſand miles in a direct line, and from the Eaſt to the Weſt to the boundary line, may be computed as two thouſand and five miles.

eſtabliſhment of the united ſtates of America, of which it is meant in this place to give an abſtracted account, was in the firſt inſtance owing to the introduction of the ſtamp act in America in 1764, the reaſon given by the government at home for this act ſo exceedingly obnoxious to the Americans, was, that a ſum might be raiſed ſufficient for the defence of the colonies againſt a foreign enemy, but this pretence was ſo far from giving any ſatisfaction to the Americans, that it excited their indignation to the utmoſt degree. They not only aſſerted that they were abundantly able to defend themſelves, but denied that the Britiſh parliament had any right to tax them at all.

The ſtamps ſent out no ſooner arrived at Boſton but they were ſeized and burnt by the populace, and thoſe who were appointed to receive the duties ariſing therefrom, compelled to reſign their offices.

Though theſe outrages were committed by the common people, it was ſuppoſed that they were connived at by thoſe of ſuperiorrank, and the doctrine, that Britain had no right whatever to tax the colonies without their own conſent became generally and openly avowed.

It was now found abſolutely neceſſary either to yield to the Americans, or enforce them by arms, the former had diffuſed

fuſed itſelf univerſally throughout the colonies. Virginia firſt ſet the example, which was immediately followed by all the others.

The miniſter of England now thought proper to repeal the ſtamp act, to the great joy of the Americans and general ſatisfaction of the Engliſh.

The miniſters were now conſcious that in repealing this obnoxious ſtatute they yielded to the Americans, and therefore to ſupport, as they thought, the dignity of Great Britain, it was judged proper to publiſh a declaratory bill, ſetting forth the authority of the mother country over her colonies, and her power to bind them

by laws and ſtatutes in all caſes whatever.

The Americans by this meaſure became again incenſed againſt England, and it was not long before they manifeſted a ſpirit of abſolute independance, and that inſtead of being controuled by the Britiſh parliament in all caſes, they would not be controuled by it in the moſt trivial affairs.

Mr. Charles Townſend having declared in parliament that he would find a way of taxing the Americans without giving them offence, was now called upon to propoſe his plan—This was by laying a duty upon tea, paper, painters colours, and glaſs, imported into America.

rica—The bill for theſe new taxes was quickly paſſed and ſent to America in 1768.

A ferment much greater than that cauſed by the ſtamp act now took place throughout all the colonies, continual diſputes enſued between the governors and general aſſemblies.

Matters now haſtened to a criſis, a ſhip belonging to a capital trader had been ſeized at Boſton, in conſequence of his having neglected ſome of the new regulations, and being taken under the protection of a man of war, the populace attacked the houſes of the commiſſioners of exciſe, broke their windows, and committed other outrages.

While the diſpoſition of the Boſtonians ſtood thus, a number of troops were ordered to repair immediately to Boſton to over-awe the inhabitants—Both houſes of parliament addreſſed the king againſt America, and recommended rigorous meaſures for reducing them to obedience. The Americans however continued firm in the ideas they had adopted.

The military having arrived, for ſome time quieted the diſturbances, but on tht 5th of March 1770, a ſcuffle happened between ſome ſoldiers and a party of the town people, a violent tumult enſued, during which the ſoldiers fired among the people, killing and wounding

ſeveral

ſeveral of them. The whole province immediately roſe in arms, and the ſoldiers were obliged to retire into fort William to prevent their being cut in pieces.

The Britiſh miniſtry now repealed all the duties, that on tea excepted——The Americans conſidering it as an inlet to others, oppoſed it with the ſame violence as they had done all the reſt.

The aſſembly of Maſſachuſets Bay, now in the moſt formal manner denied the ſupremacy of the Britiſh legiſlature, and ſent copies of their tranſactions to every town in that colony.

Matters at this time were ripe for the utmoſt extremities on the part of the

Americans when three ſhips laden with tea had arrived at Boſton notwithſtanding the non-importation agreement. The people determined that the tea ſhould not be landed, they obliged thoſe to whom it was conſigned to give up their conſignment, and the following evening a number of people dreſſed like Mohawk Indians, boarded the ſhips and threw into the ſea their whole cargos conſiſting of 342 cheſts of tea, after which they retired without making any further diſturbance. This event took place in 1773, and was the immediate prelude to the diſaſters attending civil diſcord.

The parliament of Britain no ſooner heard of the outrage, than they paſſed a bill

bill to ſhut up the port of Boſton, and alſo another that any inhabitant of the colony, might for any offence committed therein, be ſent to England, at the diſtance of three thouſand miles for trial.

No ſooner were theſe laws made known in America, than they cemented the union of the colonies beyond any poſſibility of diſſolving it. They entered into a ſolemn league and covenant to break off all connexion with Britain after the month of Auguſt next enſuing, until the obnoxious acts were repealed.

A congreſs, the delegates of whom it were to be compoſed, were choſen from the repreſentatives of each pro-

vince, and firſt met at Philidelphia in 1774. Their firſt act was an exhortation to the people to continue on the ſame ſpirit with which they had begun.

General Gage now thought proper to fortify Boſton next, and alſo to ſeize the military ſtores belonging to the province.

The Americans began to make preparations for war, every one ſaw that the enſuing ſpring was to be the ſeaſon for commencing hoſtilities, they ſeized the military ſtores belonging to government at Newport, in Rhode Iſland, and other places.

On

On the 26th of February, 1775, General Gage having received information that a number of field pieces had been brought to Salem, dispatched a party to seize them, but were prevented by the people, and returned without fulfilling their orders.

The General's next attempt was attended with serious consequences. He sent a detachment to destroy a quantity of military stores at Concord, and as was reported, to seize on the persons of John Hancock and Samuel Adams, Esquires, the leading men of the congress; about five in the morning they reached Lexington, fifteen miles from Boston, where the militia of the place

were exerciſing, the Britiſh fired and killed and wounded ſeveral of the militia. The detachment then proceeded to Concord, where having deſtroyed the ſtores were attacked by the Americans, and a ſcuffle enſued in which ſeveral fell on both ſides. The Britiſh in this affair loſt two hundred and fifty killed, and the Americans about ſixty, this action took place on the 19th of April 1775.

This engagement raiſed the ſpirits of the Americans, and they meditated nothing ſhort of the expulſion of the Britiſh troops from Boſton. An army of twenty thouſand men were aſſembled under General Putnam, which blocked up General Gage in Boſton.

Nothing

Nothing decisive however happened till the 17th of June. In the neighbourhood of Charlestown, a place on the northern shore of the peninsula on which Boston stands, is an high ground called *Bunker's Hill*, which overlooks and commands the whole town of Boston—In the night of the 16th the provincials took possession of this place, and worked with such indefatigable diligence, that to the astonishment of their enemies, they had before day light almost completed a redoubt with a strong entrenchment reaching half a mile eastward as far as the river Mystic——A considerable body of troops under the command of Generals Howe and Pigot was landed at the foot of Bunker's Hill. The

Americans

Americans having the advantage of the ground poured down such inceſſant volleys as threatened the whole force with deſtruction, and General Howe was for a little time left almoſt alone, all his officers being killed or wounded. The provincials in the mean time had taken poſſeſſion of Charleſtown, ſo that General Pigot was over-matched and his troops thrown into diſorder. The Britiſh troops ſet fire to Charleſtown which obliged the provincials to quit that ſhelter. The loſs on the Britiſh ſide amounted to 1150 men, among whom were ninety officers killed, and ſeventy wounded, the loſs of the Americans did not exceed 500.

The

In this engagement the Britiſh troops claimed the victory, and the Americans, boaſted the real advantages were on their ſide, which was in fact the caſe, the Britiſh being ſo much reduced that they dare not venture out of their entrenchments.

Colonels Eaſton and Ethan Allen, ſoon after took the forts of Crown-Point and Ticonderaga, where two hundred pieces of cannon beſides mortars and a large quantity of military ſtores fell into their hands.

The Britiſh miniſtry now tried to engage the Indians in their cauſe who refuſed to interfere.

The

The ſucceſs which had hitherto attended the Americans in all their meaſures emboldened them to attempt the conqueſt of Canada, and three thouſand men under the command of Generals Montgomery and Schuyler, who defeated General Carlton and took fort St. John's.

General Montgomery next took meaſures to prevent the Britiſh ſhipping from paſſing down the river from Montreal to Quebec, this he did ſo effectually that the whole were taken. The town of Montreal alſo was obliged to ſurrender at diſcretion, and General Carleton effected his eſcape in an open boat under the favor of a dark night.

The

The American forces having reached Quebec in November, 1775, General Montgomery on the laſt day of that year reſolved to attempt to ſurprize it, but the ſignal being given too ſoon, their hopes were defeated, General Montgomery having forced the firſt barrier was killed by a grape-ſhot; in the mean time Colonel Arnold forced another of the barriers was wounded and obliged to withdraw; a third barrier was afterwards forced, a deſperate engagement now took place, in which the provincials were overpowered aud obliged to ſurrender.

Boſton after a ſevere cannonade from the Americans, was evacuated, the garriſon taking with them two thouſand of

the

the inhabitants who durſt not ſtay on account of their attachment to the Britiſh cauſe.

The congreſs now declared the ſtates of America free and independent, this celebrated declaration was publiſhed on the fourth of July, 1776.

A ſquadron whoſe object was the reduction of Charleſtown was fitted out in December, 1775, but from ſome untoward cauſe, did not reach its place of deſtination till May, 1776, thus the Americans, noted for their alertneſs in raiſing fortifications, had time enough to ſtrengthen thoſe of Charleſtown—The Britiſh reſolved to attack a fort on

Sullivan

Sullivan Iſland, however ſo many delays happened that it was the 28th of June before matters were ready for the attack. The fight began furiouſly, but the red hot balls fired from the Americans, fired the veſſels, particularly the Briſtol, which was twice in flames and not a man on the quarter deck except Sir Peter Parker, eſcaped with his life or without a wound.

General Lee having imprudently taken up his lodgings at ſome diſtance from his troops, information was given to Colonel Harcourt who happened to be at that time in the neighbourhood, and Lee was made priſoner. Six field officers were offered in exchange for him, but refuſed.

In

In June 1777, General Burgoine was joined by a conſiderable body of Indians and took Ticonderoga and defeated the Americans by land and by water—— The forts Ann and Edward were ſoon after taken and the Americans retired to Saratago.

General Burgoine in the mean time was ſadly diſtreſſed for proviſions, the Indians deſerted him. The Americans under General Gates attacked and defeated the royal army and killed General Fraſer, and the whole army are obliged to ſurrender priſoners of war.

France upon hearing of Burgoines defeat declared for the Americans, and

ſent

ſent a fleet to their aſſiſtance, Spain ſoonafter joined the confederacy, and preſently the Dutch——Lord Co.nwallis with his whole army on the 19th of October ſurrendered themſelves priſoners of war on capitulation to the combined armies of America and France under the command of General Waſhington. Lord Cornwallis made a defence ſuitable to his character he had before acquired for courage and military ſkill, but was compelled to ſubmit to untoward circumſtances and ſuperior numbers.

Peace now became she object of Britain, and the parliament of England having acknowleged the independence

of

of the American ſtates, peace was ſigned at Paris on the 30th of November, by the commiſſioners of his Britannic Majeſty and the American commiſſioners.

End of the Second Voyage.

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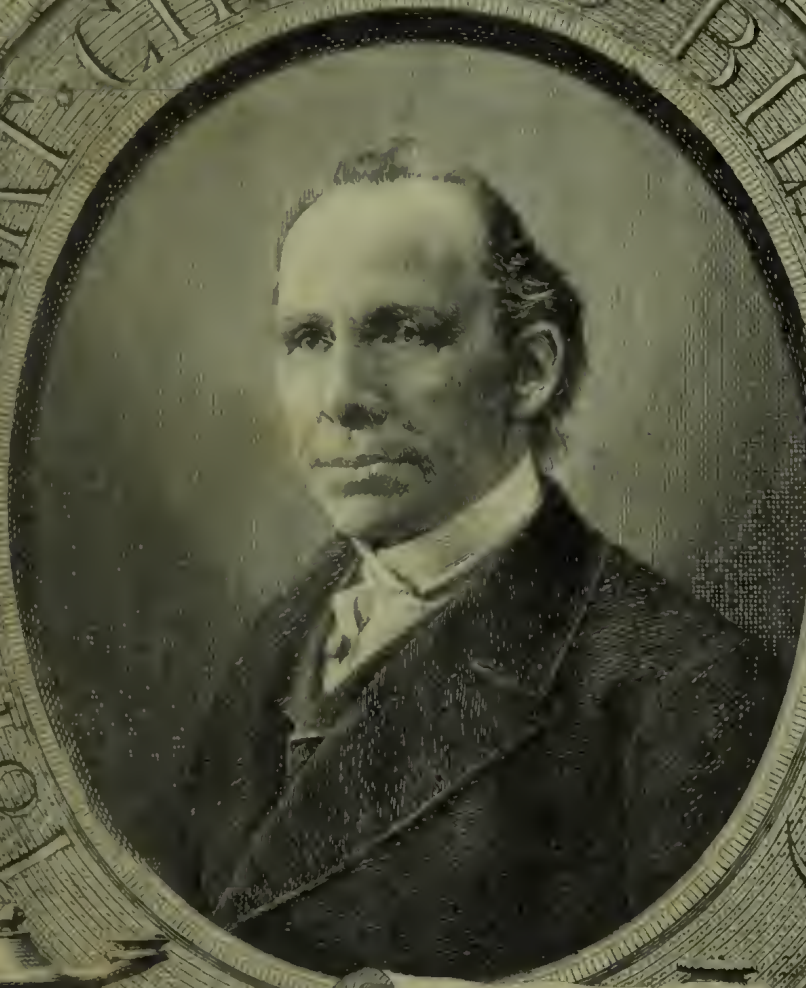

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